

THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS

Volume 40, Number 101

Tuesday, December 19, 2000

U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll, Republic of the Marshall Islands

Holiday air travel creates flurry of activity

By Jim Bennett
Editor

At least Lott Lawson doesn't have to worry about snow on the runways at Bucholz Army Airfield this holiday season.

But the airfield manager reported that holiday traffic and flight delays have caused — and will continue to cause — some stir and movement over last and this week as more than 300 residents try to get off-island.

"We're just trying to keep up the Christmas spirit here," Lawson said. "Do the best job we can."

That's not easy this time of year, especially as local flights experience cancellations, delays and schedule changes, and connecting flights in the states suffer from strikes and weather woes.

When an ATI flight failed to fly Tuesday, that pushed back the on-island arrival of several passengers and

(See AIR TRAFFIC, page 3)

Plan ahead for the new tax year

By Kent Duncan
USAKA/KMR Legal Office

This is the time of year when you can do a few things to help yourself for next year when you must file your income tax returns. Because Congress and the current president have not been seeing eye-to-eye for the past two years, no major changes have been made to the U.S. Tax Code for 1999 and again for 2000. As you approach the end of 2000, you may want to consider your financial status and tax implications of the following areas.

Postpone income

If possible, postpone income until 2001 and accelerate deductions into

(See NEW YEAR, page 4)



(Photo by Peter Rejcek)

Santa Claus (a.k.a. Ric Fullerton) visits with a young Marshallese boy during a goodwill trip to Carlos Friday. Fullerton and 47 students, under the auspices of the Marshall Islands Club, delivered more than \$2,000 worth of toys and groceries to the residents for Christmas.

Students deliver Christmas to Carlos

By Peter Rejcek
Associate Editor

The sled is an LCM, laden with 24 green- and red-wrapped boxes of groceries and gifts. Santa Claus is a social studies teacher, and his elves are students looking for an opportunity to mingle with their Marshallese neighbors.

The destination is Carlos, with its 100 children and adults, who live a simple lifestyle similar to the outer islands of the Marshalls.

"It humbles you," said student Heather Cornell, as she watched a young Marshallese child take several wild swings at a fish-shaped piñata.

Forty-seven students participated in the annual Marshall Islands Club event that spreads the holiday spirit to Carlos. It's the ninth time the club has gone.

"This is the largest group we've

ever taken," said Ric Fullerton, a social studies teacher who plays St. Nick every year.

Students in grades seven to 12 raised about \$2,000 for the party. The money bought everything from canned beef and rice to candy for the tots.

The program, which garnered only a few participants in its first years, gets bigger every year, according to math teacher and club co-founder Peter Barbella.

"It's very gratifying for me to see it grow," he said.

And the residents of Carlos are glad for the students to come.

"She's always happy to have them," said Elsa Patton of her mother, Jilo Langtir, *alap* of Carlos.

Besides delivering gifts, students and Carlos children played games, and everyone enjoyed a lunch of rice, dried fish and fresh coconut.

Christmas lesson learned in the fifth grade

I remember very little about high school algebra, and I never got the hang of that rope-climbing thing in gym class. What was the point of that anyway?

But I do remember a valuable lesson I learned in the fifth grade. That was the year I wanted the oily, hardwood classroom floor to open up and swallow me alive. It didn't.

During our class party on the last day of school before Christmas vacation, as classmates sat all around me with unwrapped Slinkies, scrapbooks, Tonka trucks and Old Maid cards, I sat without a gift.

Those of you who have known me longer than five minutes would not use the word *bashful* to describe me, but I was shy then ... plus, I was the new kid in class. Silently, I prayed for a sudden onset of appendicitis or anything to get me out of that room.

But prissy Betty picked that moment to acknowledge my existence and spoke up in her delicate little voice, "Mrs. Roberts, LuAnne didn't get a present."

Mrs. Roberts' voice was a big as her backside. She boomed across the class, "LuAnne did you draw names?"

"Yes ma'am." (*But I'll drop out of*



school before I ever do it again.)

"Who drew LuAnne's name?" she boomed again.

The class fell silent and all eyes were on me. My face was as hot as a skillet.

In the back of the room, Ella raised her hand. Not that any of us little rural-America children had money, but Ella probably had the least of anyone in the class. She wore the same dress everyday. It was red with black squares on it. In my three short weeks there, I had never heard Ella speak.

Mrs. Roberts boomed across the room at Ella.

"Well, did you get her anything?"

"Yes ma'am."

"What does it look like?" she snapped, as she waddled back to the closet where all the gifts had been stored.

"It's red," Ella whispered, looking at the oily, hardwood floors.

Mrs. Roberts found my present on the top shelf. It was tiny and was wrapped in red tissue paper — no bow, no tag, no claim to ownership.

Prissy Betty sat across from me holding her gift — this giant doll with blond curls, which had to cost a lot more than the two-dollar limit.

I pulled my gift from its humble wrapping. It was a 10-cent bubble pipe. I felt paralyzed.

For a l-o-n-g minute, nobody spoke. But then, just in case everyone couldn't see, cherry-cheeked Pam announced, "It's a *bubble pipe!*" and prissy Betty said, "What are you going to do with *that?*" (*I don't know, but sticking it up your nose is the first thing that springs to mind.*)

I sat there just looking at the thing until everyone lost interest and started doing something else besides stare at me. When I could move from the waist up again, I turned to Ella, who was still looking at the floor.

Somehow I got my legs to work and made my way down the aisle to her. When I stood beside her desk, still unsure of what to say, she looked up.

"I'm sorry," she said.

She understood my embarrassment and hoped I understood hers. She was apologizing for things that chil-

(See CLASSROOM, page 3)

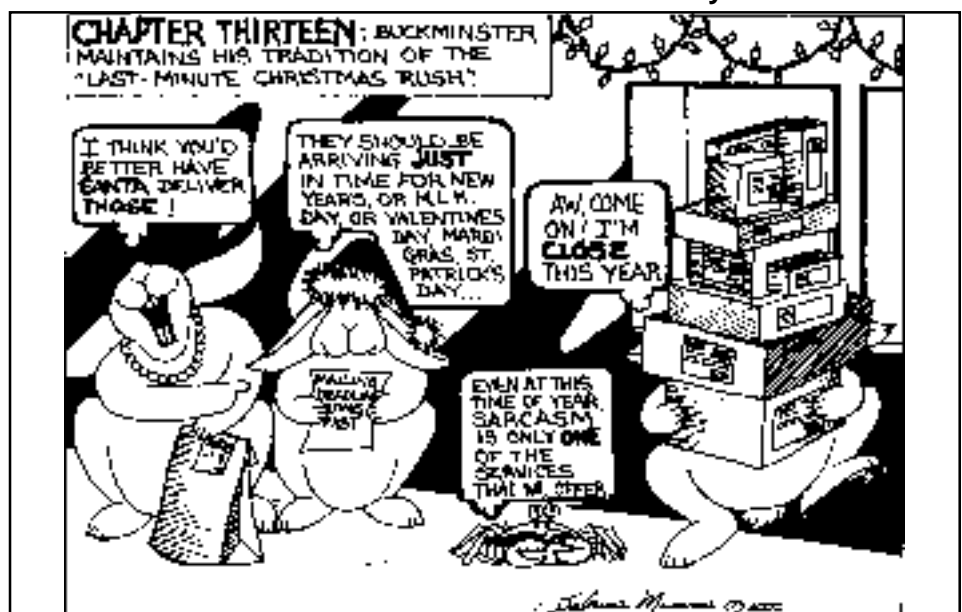
The Kwajalein Hourglass

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Buckminster and Friends — By Sabrina Mumma



Air traffic busy and steady, but less than last year ...

(From page 1)

shipments, along with the departure of 32 more, the maximum an ATI flight can carry.

Continental Travel and the Commercial Services office rerouted 100 passengers — 32 of them from the canceled ATI flight and 30 from Thursday's flight — onto a Continental flight Wednesday.

"We have to be creative this time of year," said Yvonne Duarte, Continental Travel Agency manager. "Unfortunately, we can't create flights."

ATI's regularly scheduled Thursday flight arrived later than usual, at 4:30 p.m. A second, additional flight came in Friday to make up for the canceled Tuesday flight, Lawson said.

That extra flight allowed passenger representatives to reschedule other passengers for earlier flights, said Audrey Hays, AMC representative.

Saturday's AMC and Aloha flights were booked, along with Continental's Friday and Monday flights.

Aloha Airlines originally scheduled three extra flights for the week before the holidays, but cut back to one additional flight because of late advertising, Lawson said.

On the other hand, AMC is scheduled to arrive Dec. 22 and again on Dec. 30, and ATI will not fly the first

week of the new year, because of the holiday, Hays said.

AMC continues to hold a 65 percent reliability rating for on-time arrivals. Consequently, AMC and ATI passengers have been issued a letter that can be presented to commercial airlines. With the letter, often commercial airlines will reduce or forgive transfer and rebooking fees for flights missed as a result of the government or government-contracted aircraft.

The run on flights has created what Duarte called "a domino effect," where people double-book seats out of concern that flights won't go when scheduled, and consequently, less seats are available. This past weekend, for example, several residents had to fly to the states on emergencies. Travel agents were able to find seats that had been double-booked and get the residents to their destinations this time, she said.

Despite the run on seats, this year's holiday crush is actually lower than normal, Duarte said. More than 500 residents leave the island during normal holiday periods, as compared to off-peak travel times where around 100 residents leave the island.

Said Duarte, "That means we're going to have more people on the island for the holidays."

Troops express mixed feelings about leaving Kwaj ...

(From page 8)

for Christmas," said Spc. Ashley Joffie, carpenter and one of only three women in C Company. "I would like to come back and see the [Space Surveillance and Telemetry Center] finished."

Joffie echoed many other soldiers' comments. All were looking forward to returning to the states for the holidays, but most wished that they had been able to completely finish the buildings, and some wanted to return to Kwajalein.

"We didn't have any time to enjoy the island. We worked hard," said Spc. Matthew Decker. "You have a great island. I'd live here if I could have my family here."

Acknowledging the difficulty in finishing the projects, Cornell said, "Be-

ing intimately familiar with construction on Kwaj, I know it wasn't easy. You battled the enemies of weather, material and equipment well."

With personnel who will work in the new buildings looking on, Cornell and Jones explained what the new facilities mean to the island.

"[This is a] milestone ... the dream to vacate WWII vintage Quonset huts, plus trailers and sheds, and move into a functional, effective facility is closer to reality," Cornell said, explaining that six shops would have new homes when the Consolidated Maintenance Facility is completed.

According to Doug Vander Veen, RSE project manager, the goal is to have the facilities completed in early February.

"It's not just a building," Jones said,

speaking at the Space Surveillance and Telemetry Center dedication. "It will allow Kwajalein Missile Range to continue its modernization of bringing resources in telemetry and space surveillance technology down here to the KMR Mission Control Center, so we can continue the great mission we do for our nation. The work that you've done will allow us to provide better service to those programs and to our nation."

After the short ceremonies, the troops in their white T-shirts and camouflage pants left to finish packing for the long journey to their homes on Saturday. Some of them may be back.

"We look forward to having you back and doing some more buildings for us," Jones said.

Classroom gift remains invaluable years later ...

(From page 2)

dren are not responsible for but are still ashamed of.

"It's okay," I lied.

That's the valuable gift I received that Christmas — the capacity to understand another person's feel-

ings. It was one step toward adulthood, and I was pleased with my new sense of maturity. Plus, I felt much better as soon as my face cooled off and after I (accidentally?) knocked prissy Betty's doll over on the oily, hardwood floor.

Want to voice an opinion?

If you have a communitywide issue to raise and no other outlet, perhaps you should write a letter to the editor. Letters must be less than 300 words, and confined to the issues. Letters must be signed. We will edit letters. Limit one letter every 30 days.

Send your letter to:

The Hourglass, P.O. Box 23, Local; or
jbennett@kls.usaka.smdc.army.mil.

New year sparks new tax season ...

(From page 1)

2000 to lower your 2000 tax bill.

Postponing tax generally is a primary year-end tax-planning tool. It is particularly effective if it helps you to claim larger deductions, credits and other tax breaks that are phased out over varying levels of adjusted gross income.

One idea is to sell loser stocks to offset gains. With the roller-coaster stock market this year, you may have a mix of winners and losers. If you have a big capital gain, consider selling some of the losers. You can erase your tax liability on the gain with a corresponding loss. Then you can apply another \$3,000 in losses against ordinary income. Any additional losses can be rolled over to subsequent years.

This strategy also works with mutual funds, which may have generated capital gains when the portfolio manager sold some holdings. You cannot just sell a stock and then buy it back immediately, however. That violates the federal "wash sale" rule, which prohibits quick flips of stocks and mutual funds to realize a tax loss. You must wait 31 days to buy back the same stock or fund. You can, however, buy a similar stock in the same industry. With mutual funds, you can buy a similar fund with the same objectives in another fund family.

You can also call your mutual fund to find out its distribution date. If you sell before the distribution date, you

can avoid paying taxes on dividends and capital gains on distributions made that year. On the other hand, if you intend to buy a fund, wait until after its distribution date.

Accelerate deductions

You should consider donating appreciated stock or property rather than cash from the proceeds of a sale. You may be able to give more to the charity, and you avoid paying capital gains tax on the donations. Also, making charitable contributions before Dec. 31, 2000, by credit card will count as a deduction for 2000.

Try bunching deductible expenses such as medical expenses, charitable contributions and investment expenses in one year to maximize your itemized deductions, especially if you otherwise may not itemize. Paying some of next year's expenses in December might give you enough to itemize. Accelerating major deductions such as state income taxes, property taxes and mortgage interest may help anyone, especially during a high-income year. If your income is too high, however, you may be subject to itemized deduction phase-outs for those at higher income levels.

You can also make gifts to others to take advantage of the \$10,000 gift tax exclusion (\$20,000 for gifts made by married couples) that applies for each donee each year. The exclusion cannot be carried-over to the next year. It is a "use it or lose it" benefit.

Think about selling your home. Married taxpayers may exclude up to a \$500,000 gain on the sale of a home from tax, if:

- The house was owned jointly;
- The husband and wife lived in the house for two out of the last and years; and
- The husband and wife haven't claimed an exclusion in the past two years.

Single taxpayers may exclude up to \$250,000 of gain from a home sale. This current sale-of-a-home rule allows the seller to rent out the house for up to three years while trying to sell the house and still exclude some gain from tax. Should the sellers be forced to move due to a job or health

Tax Links

Consult the following Web sites for more tax information:

- www.irs.gov
- www.kiplinger.com
- www.quicken.com
- www.taxplanet.com
- www.hrblock.com
- www.taxes.about.com
- www.familymoney.com
- www.individual.com

reasons before living in the home for the required two years out of five, there would be a proration of the amount of gain. For example, if the sellers only lived in the house for one year and then moved due to a new job, the sellers could still exclude up to half of \$500,000 (if married filing jointly) or half of \$250,000 (single).

Exclude foreign earned income

This is especially important for many Kwajalein residents. The foreign earned income exclusion has increased from \$74,000 to \$76,000 for 2000. That means that you may be able to exclude up to this amount of your income earned from a contractor while you work overseas. If both you and your spouse work abroad and meet the tests, you can each choose the foreign earned income exclusion; it is possible for a married couple together to exclude as much as \$152,000. U.S. government workers, including soldiers, cannot exclude their income. See IRS Publication 54, "Tax Guide for U.S. Citizens and Resident Aliens Abroad."

Just a reminder that even if you do qualify for the foreign income exclusion, you still must file an income tax return. In addition, if you have U.S. source income from other sources such as mutual fund distributions, that income is taxable.

For additional assistance, see your company's VITA Volunteer, or call the Office of the Command Judge Advocate at 53417.

(Information in this article was taken from Army Judge Advocate and an article by Maj. Rick Rousseau and a Judge Advocate information paper dated Dec. 1, 2000.)

By the Numbers

Standard Deduction

- Married filing jointly or qualifying widow(er) — \$7,350 (\$7,200 in 1999)
- Married filing separately — \$3,675 (\$3,600 in 1999)
- Single — \$4,400 (\$4,300 in 1999)
- Head of Household — \$6,450 (\$6,350 in 1999)

Personal Exemptions

- Personal exemption deduction — \$2,800 (\$2,750 in 1999)

These exemptions phase out for married filing jointly at \$193,400; married filing separately, \$96,700; single, \$128,950; and head of household, \$161,150.



Singers from the Kwajalein Mid-Atoll *Jebta*, or singing group, perform a song about the origins of the gospel in the Marshall Islands during Friday night's Christmas in the Marshall Islands concert at the Richardson Theater.

Jebta dancers, like those below, practice long into the night for months on Ebeye in preparation for Christmas concerts.

Christmas in the Marshalls



A young member of the Kwajalein Mid-Atoll *Jebta* hands out gifts to the Kwaj crowd, including Maryanne Lane, far right, Sheila Wrenn, center, and Carrmen Wrenn. *Jebta* members threw candy to the crowd and donated a large cache of handicrafts to the Marshallese Cultural Center.



A little girl with the Kwajalein Mid-Atoll *Jebta* is hoisted into the air during the show's finale dance.

(Photos by Peter Rejcek)

Classified Ads and Community Notices

HELP WANTED

The following on-island positions are open with Raytheon. For more information or to submit a resumé or application, call HR employment, Andrea, 53705.

SECRETARY, Automotive. Full time. Must possess general office skills and be proficient in Windows, Excel and Word. Must be detail-oriented with good communication skills.

SCHEDULER, Aviation. Casual position. Requires general computer and office skills. Responsible for helicopter manifests and compiling and filling out required forms in compliance with Army regulations.

POL SPECIALIST, Aviation. Casual position. Will be responsible to ensure safe and accurate fueling of assigned and transient passenger and cargo aircraft, as well as other POL responsibilities. Must be able to work weekends and evenings. Desire military POL experience.

FINANCE ACCOUNTANT, Finance. Full time. Senior accounting position responsible for general accounting tasks. Computer literacy and spreadsheet experience necessary. Must be proficient in Windows and Excel. Finance-related degree and experience with Oracle applications desired. Good interpersonal and communication skills required.

INSURANCE ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR, Hospital. Full time. Responsible for administering electronic direct billing program for insurance carriers, reconciling payments with patient accounts, following up with carriers and patients regarding claims and financial reports. Must be extremely detail-oriented and possess good basic computer skills. Must be knowledgeable in industry standard CPT codes and ICD-9 coding.

STOREKEEPER, Ten-Ten. Part time. Will be responsible for clerical and administrative tasks. Must have excellent interper-

sonal communication skills and available to work weekends and evenings. Computer and supervisory experience preferred.

STOREKEEPER, Tape Escape. Part time. Responsibilities include database management, data entry and various clerical tasks. Must have computer skills. Must be available to work days and be able to travel to Roi one day a week. Creativity is a plus.

CASHIER, Kwaj Tape Escape. Casual positions available. Hours are evening and weekends. Must be able to work independently and have good communication skills. Computer skills helpful.

DENTAL HYGIENIST, casual position. Must be registered licensed dental hygienist. Good communication and people skills required.

Raytheon off-island positions are updated weekly in the Career Opportunities Book at the HR counter, Bldg. 700.

TEACHERS, College of the Marshall Islands. Business, education, math, English and computer classes beginning in January. For more information, call 51034 or 52188.

WANTED

CURIO CABINET for figurines. Desperately needed before Christmas. Bail me out! Call 52597 nights or 53387 days.

OPTI FREE disinfecting solution. Call 55101 or 56726.

LOST

LARGE CAT, black and gray striped. Call 52642.

FOUND

EMPTY WALLET, colorful. Call 53750.

SET OF KEYS for master lock between helicopter pads and Building 1010. Call 52576.

GARLAND on Dec. 8. Call 53434.

GIVEAWAY

ANTIQUE COMPUTER, 386, typewriter size, great for small spaces, black and white monitor. Call Sue, 52837.

FOR SALE

EPYPHONE acoustic guitar, \$210; weight bench, new condition, \$30. Call Dave, 51564.

GATEWAY laptop computer, 435, 64 RAM, 3.5 floppy, V.90, Windows 98 and more, 6 months old, \$1,700. Call 50899 or 52222.

AQUARIUM, 100-gallon, with all filters, stand, lights, protein skimmer and coral

light, \$300; home brewing kit with 48 Grolsch bottles, \$100. Call 58656.

PCS SALE. 35 plants for sale: plumeria, hibiscus, cactus, ivy and ferns, \$5-\$30; microwave, \$75. Call Gerri, 54430.

XS SCUBA PRO BCD, \$85; 70-quart cooler, \$35; set of dive gear, XL, includes BCD, fins, weight belt, regulator, octopus, gear bag, dive knife and power inflator, \$350. Call 53466.

RADIO SHACK 900MHz cordless phone, \$40; toaster oven, \$15; silverware, \$10; hotplate, \$15; Sony five-disc CD player, \$150; ladies Wilson golf clubs with cart and accessories, \$250 or best offer; Fisher 17" TV, \$225; scuba fins, \$10. Call 52245.

LOW FIRE glazes, new, \$2 each; light brown recliner with navy and burgundy specks, \$175; video and CD storage drawers, \$5 each; two pet carriers, \$5 each; Sentry fireproof box, \$25. Call 53279 after 5 p.m.

SET OF golf clubs 3-PW, new shafts and grips, cavity backs, \$100 or best offer. Call 52540.

PCS SALE. Plants, \$3-\$40; Sanyo 27" TV, \$275; Magnavox 48" TV, \$750. Call 53565.

GOLF CLUBS with bag, folding cart and balls. \$95; fishing poles, reel and tackle, priced to sell; complete dive gear set: BCD, extra-large, regulator, weights, mask and snorkel, fins, two lights, two knives and large dive bag, \$450; Dacor regulator, new, only three dives, paid \$470, sell for \$365. Call 52617.

2000 Kwaj Open Golf Tournament photos are now available at Macy's. Stop by and order your reprints.

Due to a supply system changeover, there will be no cash sales of GSK items from Dec. 20 to Jan. 3. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Classified Ads and Community Notices

**If yer' wantin' ta
go to sea**



**Then yer' needin' to be at boating
orientation Jan. 3-4, 6-8 p.m.,
in CAC Room 1. Payment is
\$20 and you must attend both
nights. Sign up at the Small
Boat Marina or Community
Activities, 53331.**

COMPRO swim fins, large, adjustable, \$15.
Call Paul, 52318W or 53639H.

BOATHOUSE, three years old, will hold two
jet skis, \$1,500 or best offer. Call John,
52860.

LADIES HUFFY, Kwaj-condition, \$10. Call
52449 after 5 p.m.

PRICE REDUCED. 23' Bayliner with Chevy
350 Volvo outdrive, new heads, exhaust
manifolds, water pump, carburetor, 1998
Evinrude four-stroke, 15 hp kicker, GPS/
fishfinder, radios, boathouses, trailers and
extras, \$16,000. Any reasonable offer con-

sidered. Call Mike, 56298H or 56599W.

PIANO, two barbecue gas cylinders,
Cannondale all-aluminum bike frame,
Hamilton Beach juicer. Call 52295 before
8 p.m.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

PTO T-SHIRTS have arrived. To arrange for
pick-up of your George Seitz T-Shirts, call
Judy, 58222. Shirts are still available.

THIS IS a busy time of year for all, and
things can be easily neglected, like yard
work. For the enjoyment of all and in an
effort to keep our island looking great, we
ask that all residents mow their yards and
pick up all yard debris. If you live in new
housing, ensure that you mow to the half-
way mark of the common area behind back
fences.

KWAJALEIN Yacht Club will hold its monthly
meeting Friday, 6:30 p.m. The Parade of
Lights will be discussed. Don't forget to
bring a gift for the Yankee gift swap.

CRC/CAC quarterly sign-up program has
been discontinued. You can reserve your
times for up to three-month blocks at any
time at the CRC office or call 52491.

EXTENDED immunization hours will be
Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 20-21, 9-
11 a.m. and 1-4 p.m., at Kwajalein Hospi-
tal. Questions? Call 52223.

BOWLING LOCKER rentals are due for
Jan. 1-June 30. The \$12 fee is payable at
Community Activities, 7:30-11:30 a.m. and
12:30-4:30 p.m., or at the Bowling Center,
or mail a check to Community Activities,
P.O. Box 23, Local. Payment due by Jan. 3.
An additional \$1 late fee will be assessed to
all late payments. Questions? Call 53331.

GOLF COURSE greens fees and locker
rentals are now due for Jan. 1-June 30. The
\$168 fee is payable at Community Activi-

**To our Marshallese
friends and neighbors:**

**You are invited to shop
Saturday, Dec. 23,
at Macy's
and Macy's West,
10 a.m.-6 p.m., and at
Gimbel's, 10:45 a.m.-7 p.m.**

*Children under 18 will not be
permitted on island for the
purpose of shopping at the
retail facilities.*

ties, 7:30-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-4:30 p.m.,
or at the golf course pro shop, or mail a
check to Community Activities, P.O. Box
23, Local. Payment is due by Jan. 3. An
additional \$15 late fee will be assessed to all
late payments. Questions? Call 53331.

ARTS and CRAFTS supplies can be pur-
chased from the Kwajalein Art Guild Sun-
days, noon-1 p.m., at the Art Annex. Ques-
tions? Call 54216.

WANT TO stop smoking? Contact your
physician, Kwajalein psychologist, Dr. Theo
Riley or the Kwajalein Hospital pharmacy
for more information regarding how to stop.

SCUBA SANTA and his reindeer will be at
Emon Beach tonight at sunset. Bring the
kids to this special event.

HOLIDAY OFFICE hours for the elementary
school are as follows: Dec. 19, 8:30 a.m.-
2:30 p.m.; Dec. 20, 12:30-4 p.m.; Dec. 21-
22, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; Dec. 23, 12:30-4
p.m.; Dec. 27, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Dec. 28-29,
8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Regular hours of 7:30
a.m.-4:30 p.m. will resume Dec. 30.

RMI YOUTH junior soccer registration will
be Dec. 19 to Dec. 30, 7:30-11:30 a.m.,
and 12:30-4:30 p.m., at Community Activi-
ties office. Limited number of team slots are
available on a first-come, first-served basis.
For registration requirements, call Amber,
53331.

RIDE ALONG, SING ALONG for grades
three and up will be Friday, 6:30-8 p.m.
Meet at the Youth Center. Questions? Call
Amber, 53331.

AMERICAN LEGION Women's Auxiliary will
meet tonight, 6:30 p.m., at the Vets' Hall.
Women interested in joining are welcome to
attend. Questions? Call Lorraine, 54612.

GET INVOLVED with the community and
earn some extra money, too. Come to the
adult volleyball scorekeepers' clinic Friday,
Dec. 29, 5 p.m., in CRC Gym, followed by
the adult volleyball officiating clinic at 6
p.m. For more information, call Ian, 53331.

**Surfside Beauty
Salon**



**Give the gift of
beauty!
Surfside Salon
offers gift
certificates**

See you at the movies!**Saturday****National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (PG-13)**

Yule crack up as everyone's favorite dysfunctional family, the Griswolds, are back in action. It's Christmastime and Clark Griswold will go to any length, including electrocuting a cat, to make sure his family has the best holiday ever. (Chevy Chase, Beverly D'Angelo, Randy Quaid) (97 minutes)
Richardson Theater, 7:30 p.m.

The Replacements (New Release, PG-13)

When the pro football players go on strike, a crusty coach is hired to put together a team for the Washington Sentinels. The misfit players may just be good enough to go all the way, if they can avoid the distractions of nubile cheerleaders and the vengeful players they've replaced. (Gene Hackman, Keanu Reeves) (114 minutes)
Yokwe Yuk Theater, 8 p.m.

Godzilla 2000 (PG-13)

The Not-So-Jolly Green Giant goes on a rampage, gleefully stomping a Japanese city while humans try in vain to stop him. Meanwhile, an alien spacecraft has surfaced after an extended period under the sea. It eventually comes into contact with Godzilla, which results in a short-but-sweet battle sequence. (Dubbed into English.) (97 minutes)

Tradewinds Theater, 8 p.m.

Sunday**Godzilla 2000 (PG-13)**

Richardson Theater, 7:30 p.m.

The Replacements (New Release, PG-13)

Tradewinds Theater, 8 p.m.

Monday**It's a Wonderful Life (Classic, 1946)**

George Bailey never escaped his small-town life — and he finds out what a blessing that is when an angel shows him what life would be like without him. (Jimmy Stewart, Donna Reed, Lionel Barrymore) (129 minutes)
Richardson Theater, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday**Godzilla 2000 (PG-13)**

Richardson Theater 7:30 p.m.

The Replacements (New Release, PG-13)

Yokwe Yuk Theater, 8 p.m.



(Photo by KW Hillis)

1st Lt. Edward Allen, C Company, 864th Engineers, Second Platoon OIC, turns "The Regulators" over to Staff Sgt. Edward Hurtado, platoon sergeant, at the end of Friday's dedication ceremony for the Space Surveillance and Telemetry Center. Pfc. Robin Ambly, at right, and the rest of Second Platoon stand at attention in front of the new facility.

Alaskans turn over facilities

Troops pour in more than 45,000 hours to complete both projects

By KW Hillis

Feature Writer

More than 45,000 man-hours of intensive work culminated Friday morning when Capt. John Richards, C Company 864th Engineers commander, officially turned over the new Consolidated Maintenance Facility and the Space Surveillance

and Telemetry Center to Raytheon and USAKA/KMR. RSE FOM Division Manager Wayne Cornell and KMR Commander Lt. Col. Raymond Jones accepted the dedication plaques.

The fifty young men and women who dug dirt, poured foundations and laid bricks, among numerous other construction jobs, had mixed feelings at the end of the long, arduous projects.

"I'm looking forward to going home

(TROOPS, page 3)

WEATHER

Courtesy of Aeromet

Tonight: Very windy with partly cloudy skies and isolated showers.

Winds: Northeast at 20 to 30 knots, with higher gusts near showers.

Tomorrow: Continued windy with widely scattered showers late.

Winds: Northeast at 15 to 25 knots, with higher gusts near showers.

Temperature: Tonight's low 79°
Tomorrow's high 86°

December rain total: 8.96"

Annual rain total: 95.93"

Annual deviation: -2.76"

Call 54700 for continuously updated forecasts and sea conditions.

Forecasts available online: www.kmr-wx.com



Sun • Moon • Tides



	Sunrise/set	Moonrise/set	High Tide	Low Tide
Tuesday December 19	0657/1834	0119/1334	1136, 3.7' 1144, 3.9'	0500, 1.7' 1737, 2.2'
Wednesday December 20	0657/1834	0209/1427 Last Qtr.	1254, 4.1'	0619, 1.6' 1907, 1.9'
Thursday December 21	0658/1835	0258/1510	0104, 3.9' 1348, 4.5'	0718, 1.5' 2007, 1.6'
Friday December 22	0658/1835	0347/1553	0202, 4.0' 1430, 4.9'	0804, 1.3' 2052, 1.2'